THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1889.—TWELVE PAGES. NUMBER 254

IT IS A HUGE FIASCO

Collapse of the Celebrated Case Against Parnell.

THE LETTERS WERE ALL FORGED.

This Fact Proven Beyond a Shadow of a Doubt.

HOAXED BY A CLEVER SCAMP.

One of the Most Remarkable Chapters In Newspaper Annals.

SOME STRANGE COINCIDENCES.

Surprises In Store For the Prosecution Which Will Probably Throw Previous Revelations In the Shade.

The Thunderer Silenced.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, Feb. 23.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—An eventful week has ended during which many things have happened. Parliament met, but that is not much, in fact, that scarcely excited any attention, except for a few minutes on Friday night, no particle of interest attached to the proceedings. Parnell created a stir denouncing Balfour for the treatment of another Irish member, but it came to nothing. The Irish leader looked very well, and spoke in his customary cold and half conversational style. He has been about the house ever since it opened, but he seldom goes within it. Next week we shall hear more of him. Meanwhile he is the universal subject of conversation. His name is mentioned wherever two or three persons meet.

The week has been an important one for him, perhaps the most important of his life, and equally important for his assailants. None of them are likely to forget it in a hurry. How do they all stand now? What can the Times think of the life and adventures of Pigott, as related by himself, generally prompted by Sir Charles Russell? What everybody else thinks apparently is that a man of Pigott's peculiar stamp never found a much easier dupe. He must have been fairly amazed at his success. A great paper plunged into the most tremendous fight at his instigation, without knowing anything whatever of his character, without inquiring how or from whom he got the letters which he had to sell, and without the least idea of the road on which he was going to lead them. You cannot find anything in fiction more incredible than that to me. The entire circumstances, as they were presented appear before us simply unaccountable. The Times used to be conducted with caution. It would have been very difficult for a fellow like Pigott to have got within range of Delane. If he had done so Delane would have been most likely to hand him over to a policeman. But he seems to have found no such difficulty dealing with McDonald. The letters were produced without envelopes, so there is no proof that they had ever been through the post. Did that excite McDonald's suspicions? He admits that he made no particular inquiries. Canny Scot though he is, he took everything for granted.

It now appears from Pigott's own story that he had hawked himself about for sale for years before he had the luck to get hold of McDonald. He tried to sell out to Foster, Egan, and Archbishop Walsh. To everybody he could lay hold of he was ready to sell anything that might be asked for—letters, compromising documents, scandalous exposures, whatever commodity might happen to be in demand. He was always hard up, or, as he expresses it, always trying to raise the wind. His life has been one of adventure, not to use a much harsher term.

Such was the man into whose hands the Times entrusted itself blindly. What sort of a system can the paper be conducted on? Pigott now says himself that he can give no satisfactory account of the origin of the letters. It is strange that ceatain words should be misspelt in them, and that Pigott himself made the very same mistakes when Russell made him write these words down. Another queer coincidence is that some genuine letters from Egan and Parnell which Pigott had got hold of contained phrazes letterally repeated. It is disputed that the letters' style was imitated, as well as the handwriting, and expressions, such as "Make it hot for old Forster," added to give piquancy to the dish. The whole process of manufacture appears to be an innocent letter copied, a few compromising passages tacked onto it, and the production in a finished state offered to the highest bidder.

It would not do to say here, of course, while the commission is sitting, but there is scarcely room for the shadow of a doubt that this is the real origin of the letters. The Parnellite party is in the best of spirits, and well they may be, for the letters have struck the public imagination and if finally discredited nothing can save the other part of the case. It will be generally recognized that Parnell has had gross injustice done him and there will be a reaction of opinion in his favor. The rational conservatives must see this. At any rate, they will be compelled to see it in time. At present the press is compelled to be silent, and the full meaning of the evidence taken this week may not yet be generally understood. But it will be a vindication of Parnell, for such it will amount to, coming at a moment when Irish members are having their hair cut off in jail for making speeches and writing letters. All this cannot fail to produce an immense effect. As for the effect on the fortunes of the Times, no one can suppose that it will be beneficial. The case is not over, and it would be unsafe to propounce final judgment upon it, but there is no possibility of explaining away Pigott's evidence, and that can only be regarded as disastrous for the Times. Newspaper history contains no more remarkable chapter.

The sensational witnesses for the prosecution are all in, but it is said that George Lewis and Russell, between them, have still a surprise or two in store. Persons behind the scenes talk of coming revelations which will throw anyting yet produced in the shade. That, it is thought, would be difficult, as Pigott's match will be hard to find. They talk, however, of being able to prove the connection of one or two prominent public men with the attempt of the Times to ruin Parnell. It is from the Parnellites that is most frequently heard the word "conspiracy" now. It is not probable that any politician had guilty knowledge of a conspiracy, or that the Times entered into a plot. They may have committed incredible indiscretions, but conspiracy is not in their line. There is evidently no turn for that sort of thing, or they would have had a keener eye for Pigott.

Russell will doubtless let something out in his speech, which will occupy a week in delivery. It is to be hoped he will get at it soon, the sooner the better for the Parnellites, who now want the curtain to fall. After that the whole case must be considered in the commons. So, practically, there will be another trial without witnesses. It will be some time before all is over. Politics have been thrown far into the background, and are not worth talking about.

Press Comments.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—The Pall Mall Gazette, which on the 16th inst. said, in commenting on the proceedings of the Parnell commission, that if Pigott was the Apostle Paul, his solitary word might suffice to sustain the charges made by the Times against the Parnellite members of the commons, in its issue to-day, says: "Pigott has not been an Apostle Paul. The dismay in Downing street must be only a degree less than that which prevailed in the Times office. There is not a tory to-day who is not feeling heartsick at the evidence of the witness, in whose impeachable repatation the Times case absolutely depends." The Gazette points out that even the unionist papers—the Telegraph and Chronicle—admit that the Times case has collapsed. Continuing, the Gazette says: "If the conviction has now slowly filtered into the minds of Mr. Walter and his staff that they have been cruelly hoaxed by an ingenious and resourceful blackmailer, the only course open to them is to publicly own that they have been deceived and withdraw their allegations, offer a handsome apology, and pay the costs they have forced upon the men whom they have traduced on Pigott's authority."

The Star, T. P. O'Connor's paper, commenting on Pigott's evidence before the Parnell commission, says:

"The connection between the Times and the government is two-fold. The government created first, the commission, and second, the Times case. If Attorney General Webster had not been enabled to play the part of prosecutor, judge and framer of the indictment, there could have been no tribunal at all. If he had not assured Lord Salisbury that the letters would prove to be genuine, the commission would not have been created, and the unionists never suffered such a blow as by their own piteous admissions awaits them. The government chose the game, loaded the dice, selected its partners and arranged the rules, and it must pay up now. The price is the dissolution of parliament. We want to know what the country thinks of Pigott."

Too Clever By Half.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 25.—As showing the feeling among the Irish nationalists of Ireland, the following cablegram from Michael Davitt to Patrick Egan, of this city, to-day, is given:

DUBLIN, Feb. 23.—To Pat Egan, Lincoln: Victory is now near at hand. Pigott is too clever by half. DAVITT.

AN OFT TOLD TALE.

A Foolish Girl, an Accomplished Villain and a Heart-Broken Mother.

LEADVILLE, Colo., Feb. 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The saddest case of suicide that has happened here for a long time occurred this morning. About two months ago Mrs. Hurley and two daughters came here from Cedar Rapids, Ia. The mother supported the daughters, but Florence soon found employment in a private family, where she became a great pet in the household. She was a very handsome young girl of nineteen, and soon became a general favorite and had many admirers. A few weeks ago she became fascinated with one of her new acquaintances, and the mother soon noticed that her daughter came home rather late, and one night about a week ago she did not return home. Upon inquiry she found that Florence had been led astray by a polished villian, and that she intended remaining from home. The poor mother was heartbroken, and vainly did she endeavor to show her daughter her erring ways, but all to no avail. Yesterday the girl's lover deserted her, and, stricken with remorse and ashamed to return home, she at an early hour this morning went to a drug store and purchased a bottle of morphine, went to her room and took the entire contents of the bottle. She was found shortly after in a semi-conscious condition. A physician was sent for, but it was too late, the deadly drug having done its work.

WILL CLARK SUCCEED GOULD.

Important Missouri Pacific Changes Said to Be Pending.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—It leaked out to-day that W. H. Newman, third vice-president of the Missouri Pacific railroad, had tendered his resignation, to take effect April 1. No reason is given for Newman's retirement, but when considered in connection with the resignation of Vice-President A. L. Hopkins, and the changes that are promised in the board of directors, color is lent to the rumor that a complete reorganization of the Missouri Pacific company is about to occur. It has recently been reported that S. H. H. Clark, vice president and general manager, would retire from the service of the company very soon, but this is now believed to be a mistake. On the contrary, those who profess to know something of the relation existing between Mr. Clark and Jay Gould venture the opinion that the former will be made president of the company, Gould retiring.

Chicago Files a Complaint.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—The petition of the Chicago board of trade to the inter-state commerce commission, alleging discrimination against this city by railroads in charging higher rates for the transportation of live hogs than for packing house products, was filed with the commissioner to-day. All the roads operating between the Missouri river and Chicago are charged with violating the provisions of the inter-state law, which forbids unjust discrimination and the giving of undue advantage to a particular locality or description of traffic.

Archduke John Forgiven.

VIENNA, Feb. 23.—Archduke John, who sometime ago abruptly took his departure from Austria, will shortly resume service in the army. The archduke, who is a distant cousin of Emperor Francis Joseph, had to leave Austria in consequence of a direct order from the emperor. According to some rumor current at that time, the archduke had a serious quarrel with Crown Prince Rudolph.

The Budget Accepted.

PARIS, Feb. 23.—Rouvier has announced that the ministry has accepted its predecessors' budget, and that a committee will be appointed on Tuesday.

The Weather Indications.

For Nebraska and Iowa: Fair, followed by snow, warmer southerly winds.

For Dakota: Snow, warmer southerly winds.

CABINET GOSSIP.

Only Four Places Considered Definitely Fixed.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 23.—There has been but little cabinet gossip here to-day. Only four places that are considered definitely fixed are those of Blaine, Windom, Noble and Wannamaker. There is considerable talk, however, of the probability that the south will yet be given another representative besides Noble. It is alleged that Noble will go in as the personal representative and choice of General Harrison and the southern representative will be one who has more direct connection with southern affairs, and who will be able to give some practical solution of the southern question. Since it was announced that Alger was no longer being considered, it was thought that Rusk was sure of the war department, but within the past day or two that has been considered as exceedingly doubtful, owing to the geographical situation.

It is regarded that the new secretary of agriculture will certainly come west, and tends to throw doubt as to some of those who have been considered certain for the other positions. The central western states will have three departments—interior, treasury and agriculture—and the state, postoffice and navy, at least, will go to the east, leaving to the south and Pacific slope the war and justice.

Many southern republicans who have been here have urged that the south be given the department of justice, as it is to that department they look more than any other for the recovery of their rights. This would make the appointment of Judge Speer not improbable. By others it is thought that the navy, instead of the war, will be assigned to either the south or the Pacific slope.

Arrangements for the inaugural trip have been concluded.

WYOMING'S ASPIRATIONS.

She Hastens to Present Her Claims For Statehood.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Feb. 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The admission of four new states is received with much satisfaction in Wyoming, the opinion being strengthened that Wyoming's turn for admission will now follow very soon. The Wyomingites are eager and unanimous for statehood. Democrats and republicans alike are working for admission. The territory cannot be counted as politically safe for either party, and if admitted as a state is as likely to be democratic as republican, even though a republican delegate has been elected for the past three terms. The population of the territory is growing at the rate of 15,000 yearly. Outside capital is being attracted to the resources of oil, coal and iron, and developments are being made which are bringing a large immigration into the territory. A number of lines of railway are heading for Wyoming and the coming year will witness an amount of railway growth unprecedented in the history of the territory An enabling act passed during the present year will bring Wyoming in as a state with population and wealth sufficient to rival many of the older states.

ANARCHIST NEEBE WEAKENS.

He Will Make Important Revelations On Condition of a Pardon.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—Louis Neebe, brother to Oscar Neebe, the anarchist now serving a term in the penitentiary for participation in the Haymarket affair, returned from a visit to his brother at Joliet to-day. Before going, Neebe had a talk with Judge Gary, who presided at the trial, on the subject of a petition for the prisoner's pardon, and was told that when Oscar would make a full statement regarding the working and plans of the anarchist groups, including the Lehr and Wehr verein, the steps he and the others took in the consummation of their proposed social revolution; when he exposed all the plans and schemes of the defense during the progress of the trial, and expressed regret and contrition, the judge would consider the question of signing a petition for his pardon. A statement of the requirements was laid before Oscar, and he agreed to fulfill them. The prison authorities have furnished him with the necessary materials for the purpose, and the statment is probably being written now.

FATAL RAILROAD WRECK.

Three Men Killed and Their Bodies Burned Up.

BANGOR, Me., Feb. 23.—A serious accident occurred to the morning train from Bangor to St. John near Boyd's Mills, two miles east of Kingman, at 10 a. m. William D. Mudgett, railway postal clerk, John Campbell, English mail clerk, and Harry Goodman, fireman, were killed, and burned in the wreck. J. Augell, engineer, was injured. No passengers were seriously injured. The cars caught fire from the locomotive immediately after leaving the track and the mail, baggage and parlor cars were burned, together with the express, mail matter and baggage.

Jolly American Tars.

[Copyright 1888 by James Gordon Bennett.]

NICE, Feb. 23.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—A large party of marines and bluejackets from the Lancaster, who secured twenty-four hours shore leave, came to Nice this afternoon to finish their Washington's birthday festivities. A game of base ball was played on the parade grounds between picked nines of seamen and apprentices. The weather was very cold and but few people saw the game. The apprentices had an easy time, winning by a score of 17 to 8. Next week a minstrel entertainment will be given on board the Lancaster.

A Topeka Blaze.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The building occupied by Phelps Bros., wholesale dealers in produce, was gutted by fire about midnight last night, and the stock and contents damaged to the amount of $10,000. The building was owned by the Hamilton brothers, and was valued at about $6,000. Phelps Bros. carried an insurance of about $4,000 on their stock. The total loss, after the insurance is paid, is $11,000. The cause of the fire is unknown.

A Kansas Legislator Dead.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Hon. S. W. Case, member of the house of representaives from Scott county, died suddenly early this morning of an affection of the lungs. He was president of the Scott county bank, and was for several years engaged in the newspaper business. In consequence of his death the house took an adjournment until Monday.

Prince Alexander Married.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—Advices have been received here to the effect that Prince Alexander of Battenburg has been already married to the opera singer Louisinger. She is twenty-three years of age, of humble parentage, and a Catholic.

Another Royal Idiot.

BERLIN, Feb. 23.—Prince Rupert, eldest son of Prince Ludwig, of Bavaria, heir to the Bavarian throne, is insane.

THE WORLD'S NAVIES

John Bull Jealously Guarding His Ocean Sway.

CLOSELY EYES HIS NEIGHBORS.

He Acknowledges France As Practically His Peer.

WHILE ITALY RANKS THIRD.

And Russia Follows Close Behind Her.

OUR COMMERCE DESTROYERS.

Secretary Whitney's Pets Given a Complimentary Recognition—Albion Strong Numerically, Very Solid, But Slow.

An English Expert's Views.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, Feb. 23.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The London edition of the Herald to-day contains an article from an English naval expert, as follows:

"The subject of national defense is about to be dealt with in parliament, and the British nation will learn soon the scope of the new programme and the cost, about which there has been so much speculation. John Bull has not got a surplus to draw upon like his cousin on the other side of the Atlantic, nor the revenues of suppressed monasteries to confiscate for that purpose, like the Mikado. Whatever Great Britain does in this way is forced upon her, and therefore a side light will be found below in some brief accounts of what other nations are doing or purpose to do to increase their naval strength. Naturally one turns to France first as by far the most important of the continental naval powers, possessing maritime strength, second only in number to that of this country, and said to be superior in organization, in readiness for war and in preparation for coast defense. France has always paid more attention to the speed and steaming capacities of her ships, and therein lies her chief advantage to-day. When Admiral Aube was minister of marine the ship building policy was mainly directed to supply fast cruisers for destroying commerce, but Admiral Krantz has favored a return to the construction of armor-clad and belted cruisers. Eleven armored vessels are now in course of construction, five of which will be completed this year and others in 1890 and 1891. Two steel clad cruisers to steam over twenty knots are also to be completed within the same period, and eighteen cruisers of not less than 1,000 tons displacement are on the programme for 1888-91, which includes also several torpedo cruisers. Along with the rapid completion of the cruisers ordered by Aube an expenditure has been authorized for the protection of the harbors of Cherbourg and Brest, and these works have already been begun in many ways. The administration of Admiral Krantz has been noteworthy and characterized by marked ability and energy.

Next to that of France for the present, but some way after it, stands the maritime strength of Italy, rivaled by that of Russia. The huge monsters that Italy has launched possess questionable value as fighting machines, but they carry very powerful guns and have great speed. In the programme of 1888-91 it contemplates a gradual increase in every type or class of ships from the armored battleships through the protected cruisers, of which class this nation owns some splendid specimens, down to the speedy torpedo craft and sea-going tug.

Russia stands fourth in importance so far as relates to its naval strength among European powers. The programme of ship building for this nation dates from 1881, and except that it is likely to be completed in a shorter space of time than originally contemplated there seems to have been little or no departure from its main lines. In addition to the then existing fleet it was proposed to build nineteen first class battle ships, four second class and ten first class cruisers. The armor clads are now being turned out at the rate of three or four a year, and the cruisers nearly as fast. Two battle ships are on the stocks and four more cruisers have been ordered. In the Baltic it was only owing to the early closing in of the ice that another battle ship was not launched last year.

The new admiral of the German navy is being entrusted with the thorough rehabilitation of the naval service. Not only had Germany practically ceased to add to her iron clad navy since 1880, but had never replaced those ships which from age or accident had become insufficient. Looking to what Russia was doing in the Baltic and to the growing needs of her colonial development it would have been strange if Germany had still remained idle. The programme for 1889-91, which has now been authorized, includes the construction of ten coast service battle ships, four foreign service battle ships, seven protected and four partly protected cruisers, besides torpedo craft. Although the cost of this programme is to be charged to several budgets, the vessels are all to be ready for use with the completion of the Baltic and North sea canal.

By 1891 the United States will possess a navy which is bound to be a factor in any consideration of the question of naval supremacy. The Texas battle ship, now building at the Norfolk navy yard, and the Maine battle ship, to be constructed at the New York navy yard, are looked upon by English experts as first-rate vessels of the class they represent, but it is in regard to her cruisers, or commerce destroyers, as Secretary Whitney calls them in his annual report, that the United States looks at present like running the English record very close. The Charleston, Newall, Baltimore, Philadelphia and San Francisco will be protected cruisers which any power would be proud to own. While the United States, so far as their opponent is concerned, was absolutely supreme at sea, her commerce was utterly ruined by the depredations of half a dozen fast vessels acting on well conceived and ably executed plans. It was the action of these vessels telling on the insurance rates that did the damage, and no one in England to-day appears to believe that her cruisers are sufficient to prevent a similar raid on her commerce if she went to war. While such a belief is prevalent, it is not even needed that there should be a set fight. War would cause a panic and the prohibitive rates of insurance would rule. It is for this reason and because it is necessary to restore confidence that the government is going to increase the navy, but even now they are hardly heart whole in their endeavors to put matters on a square foundation.

BENJAMIN CONSTANT.

The Eminent French Painter Pays High Tribute to American Art.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

PARIS, Feb. 23.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—A correspondent of the Herald spent a pleasant hour yesterday afternoon with M. Benjamin Constant at his studio in Helene. He found the distinguished artist enthusiastically delighted with his visit to the United States, from whence he returned last Monday by the Normandie, after a stay of nearly three months. During that time M. Benjamin Constant found time to visit many of the principal cities of the union to examine the public and private art galleries and to make a number of studies of American scenery, which, he says, has almost tempted him to turn his attention to his landscape painting.

In reply to a question about his impression concerning art in the United States, Mr. Benjamin Constant said the public collections I saw in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and elsewhere are well selected and admirably arranged. They form good commencements for what will doubtless one day become important museums. They prove that love for art is widely spread among American people and that there is no lack of good taste in such matters on the other side of the Atlantic. Another thing that struck me very forcibly while visiting those collections was the fact that all of them owe their existence and their artistic value exclusively to private initiation and munificence. What you Americans call public spirit is certainly very common among rich men of your country, and it is exercised with great judgment so far as art matters are concerned. There seems, however, to be very little public spirit in those who have the management of the public affairs of New York City. For example, it is paved in a way that would be a disgrace to the poorest provincial town in France. The streets, with few exceptions, seemed to me to be always over ankle deep with mud, or else covered with a thick stratum of dust, while some of them are filthy beyond description. It appears that this primitive state of things is not due to any lack of money, for I was told that the budget of New York is twice as large as that of Paris, but it seems that the bulk of the appropriations somehow or other manage to stick to the fingers of those who have the spending of them. I cannot help feeling surprised that so practical a people as the Americans should stand such a state of things so patiently but to go back to art, I confess that I was literally astounded at the number and richness of private art collections I saw in every American city I visited. Nowhere, not even here nor in England, are there so many and such private picture galleries. It is true that these do not contain many canvasses by the old masters, but it is no exaggeration to say that they contain many of the best works of all the contemporary schools.

GOULD'S TRUST SCHEME.

It Differs Radically From the Inter-State Agreement.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The New York telegram which announced it as a part of Jay Gould's plan of campaign to bulldoze the outside lines into signing the president's agreement was fully discussed to-day among railroad men. Said one of the signers of the agreement:

"The telegram looks plausible, but I know that part of it is wrong, and I believe the whole of it is. To begin with, Gould's trust scheme is entirely different from the inter-state commerce railway association, and from beginning to end Gould has had nothing to do with us. If he had seen his way clear to do so, he might have antagonized us, for the agreement has given his trust scheme a black eye. The scheme proposed to whip the outstanding roads into line may be a good one, but we won't try it. It might succeed to have one line cut rates on an outstanding line, the association to pay the deficiency, but it would make a very unfriendly member when at last it was forced into the ranks. There is every reason to believe that the agreement will be practically unanimous. The Illinois Central and Burlington & Northern will not join, but they will keep the spirit of the agreement."

THE MARINE TALKS.

He Wants to Wipe Up a Portion of Colorado With Smith.

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Le Blanche and Ed Smith, the prize fighters arrested Thursday night while engaged in a mill, were arraigned before Justice Palmer to-day. Both pleaded guilty to prize fighting, and were fined $25 and costs each, which they paid.

"The Marine," who was so unmercifully handled by Smith during the two rounds last Thursday night, is out with the statement that he was taken at a disadvantage, and suffered thereby. He further asserts that a purse of $500 has been raised, and that he and Smith will meet inside of ten days in a fight to a finish, and that he (LeBlanche) will then show the Denver lad what easy game he is. "I will meet Smith," said LeBlanche, "and wipe up several sections of Colorado with him. It will show him what it means to meet a man who understands his business. I was playing with him the first round the other night, and had he not got in scratch blow the result would have been different."

In the meantime Smith is said to be anxious for another "go," and is not losing any sleep over "The Marine's" talk.

Leslie's Weekly Sold.

CANAJOHARIE, N. Y., Feb. 23.—Mrs. Frank Leslie sold to W. J. Arkell, of the Judge, her weekly illustrated papers, both English and German, the transfers to be made May 1. Mrs. Leslie will retain and personally direct her other publications. Arkell refuses to state the price paid. He says that the policy of the weekly will remain the same—aggressive and independent.

Boycotting the Butchers.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Feb. 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—It is said that during the past week big jawed steers have been slaughtered by local butchers and the meat sold to the public. Several of the suspected butchers are being boycotted. The cattle were consigned to commission men from Kansas points. There is much excitement.

A Signal Officer Killed.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 23.—James Cassiday, the signal officer assigned to the Illinois state agricultural office at Springfield, was run over and instantly killed by a train at an early hour this morning.

A Fireman Fatally Frozen.

WARREN, Pa., Feb. 23.—At a fire here to-day, which caused a loss of $18,000, two firemen were severely frozen, one of whom is not expected to recover.

PARIS STARTLED.

A Blizzard Suddenly Envelopes the City in Darkness.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

PARIS, Feb. 23.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—At 9 o'clock yesterday morning Paris was startled by a meteorological phenomenon. The sun was shining brightly, the sky was clear, the weather cold and the wind due north. Suddenly, and without an instant's warning, it became dark as night. A black cloud enveloped the entire city and snow fell in blinding thickness for a few moments. Then there was an actual blizzard. Horses trembled and ran into each other, and carts and cabs came into collision. This lasted for eighteen minutes. Then the blackness and snow suddenly vanished as if by magic and the sun shone brightly again. But in that short space of time the city was covered with an inch and a half of snow.

The Seine is still rising. The work at the exhibition is interrupted by the floods. The Spanish section is completely submerged, and the woodwork of the Portugese section is all afloat and going at seven knots an hour down the river. The Panorama transatlantique is now washed by the stream, and unless the cold, dry weather that set in at 11 o'clock this evening continues, serious consequences are feared.

The setting of the chamber yesterday was a very tame one. The deputies accepted the new cabinet as a sort of choice of evils. The new ministers came into the chamber in Indian file and took their seats on their benches just as if they were going to have their photos taken. M. Tirard mounted the tribune and made his appeal to the chamber to come to a truce. Mr. Tirard's appeal was received pleasantly and with a spirit that leads to the belief that his cabinet may after all weather the storm.

ANOTHER CHARLIE ROSS.

A St. Joseph Father Searching For a Long Lost Son.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Feb. 23.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Last June Eddie Cameron, the eight-year-old son of A. A. Cameron, a well known citizen, was kidnapped by two men. The case excited much interest at the time. Large rewards were offered for the return of the child. When stolen, the boy was playing with his twin brother, Fred, at a point near the old stock yards. Two men approached them and asked them to go with them and they would give them plenty of money and ponies to ride. Both of the little fellows at first refused to go, but upon being told that they would return again in a little while, Eddie joined them. Fred did not go home immediately, thinking that Eddie would return presently, and it was not until a late hour that the parents were aware of what had happened. The police were notified and a search instituted in the city. Telegrams were sent to cities and adjoining towns, but to no avail. The family had given up all hopes of ever again seeing their son, until little Fred came running home Friday afternoon and divulged the information that he had seen the two men who had taken his brother away enter a saloon on South Sixth street. Mr. Cameron went directly to the saloon and the two men were pointed out to him. He made them drunk and when thoroughly imbibed with liquor he drew from them the whereabouts of his long lost child. He was told that after enticing the child away they took him to Fort Scott, Kan., where they said the boy is now doing the cowboy act. They say that Eddie is an expert rider and throws the lasso equal to any of them. At this moment a man by the name of Breckenridge entered the saloon, and not catching the drift of the conversation, told the Fergusons that Mr. Cameron was the father of the boy. The men, upon hearing this, took to their heels and skipped the town. Mr. Cameron took the train early Tuesday morning for Fort Scott and hopes to head the men off and secure the boy. Telegrams received this evening in St. Joseph are to the effect that the kidnappers will be captured before morning.

The Sons of Veterans.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—A consolidation of the rival post and camp systems of the Sons of Veterans was completed here to-day. It was done at a conference between Colonel A. L. Conger, of Ohio; Corporal Tanner, of New York; General Thomas Bennett, of Indiana; Colonel John Burst, of Illinois, and Colonel George M. Devlin, of Michigan, representing the Grand Army of the Republic, and George W. Marks, of Brooklyn, commander-in-chief of the post system, and G. B. Abbott, of Chicago, commander-in-chief of the camp system. G. A. R. men were elected as arbitrators. In harmonizing or compromizing the differences between the two junior organizations it was decided that the new body should be known as the camp system, and shall use the fraternal title "comrade" in place of "brother." The titles of officers shall conform to the usage of the Grand Army of the Republic, except that camps may organize drill corps, which, when equipped, may employ strict military titles. The other details are left to the two commander-in-chiefs of the consolidating bodies, except that it is provided that the membership badge and charter of the camp system shall be used, and the insignia and rank of the post system.

The Medical World.

[Copyright 1889 by James Gordon Bennett.]

PARIS, Feb. 23.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—Dr. Charcot's new treatment of muscular irregularity, is coming into vogue. It consists in suspending the patient by the arms for a few minutes daily until cured. This, it appears, stimulates the circulation of the blood in the parts affected. Every day about a dozen patients given up by their doctors come to Salpetriar for treatment. They are as a rule very nervous on being taken for the first time to the apparatus, but submit cheerfully afterwards Among the cures is that of a French writer of note alluded to in Daudett's "Immortel."

Another case of ambulating automatism has just occurred in the person of a midwife who performed the functions of her office while in that peculiar state of unconsciousness. She remembered nothing of the operation on coming to herself twenty-four hours afterwards.

Bell Wins Another Case.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Commissioner of Patents Hall to-day rendered an important decision in the matter of the petitions of Gray & McDonough to reopen the Bell telephone interferences and to set aside the decision of Commissioner Butterworth, rendered on March 3, 1885. The decision covers 134 type written pages, and reviews the whole history of the telephone contests. The commissioner refused to reopen the interferences and reaffirms the award of priority to Bell.

GOSSIP FROM BERLIN.

Diplomatic Dinners Now the Order of the Day.

THE CHANCELLOR OVERWORKED.

He Complains Bitterly of the Action of Colonial Officials.

A CONSUL'S ABSURD SCHEME.

Little Confidence Expressed in the New French Cabinet.

THE EMPEROR AGAIN UNWELL.

Large Quantities of Socialistic Literature Destroyed By the Police—Emin Relief Expedition—The Italian Loan.

Bismarck's Banquet.

[Copyright 1889 by New York Associated Press.]

BERLIN, Feb. 23.—Diplomatic and ministerial dinners are now the order of the day, and are eagerly discussed as affording indications of personal and international relations. Bismarck yesterday gave a dinner to the members of the lower house of Prussian diet, and during the serving of coffee, complained of the heavy labors created for him by what he termed the "so-called colonies." He ascribed the blame for no small portion of his difficulties to the action of the colonial official, who he said frequently acted without requisite knowledge of the circumstances, and especially did not know how to treat the natives. It was impossible, the chancellor said, to allow trivial disputes to introduce any discordant elements in Germany's relations with the great friendly powers, as the slightest disturbance prevailing between imperial government and foreign states might have the most prejudicial effects upon German commercial and business relations. Bismarck is said to have been greatly annoyed at the consul's proposals to annex Samoa, and the Vossiche Zeitung's question as to what would be thought of the consul who telegraphed a proposal to annex Zurich or Luxemberg, is believed to be identical with the opinion of the chancellor.

In explanation of the reported ordering of a German squadron to Samoa, the National Zeitung observes that the impending punishment of Mataafa will have no effect on Germany's relations with England or America, the right of England to interfere in the matter not being contested in any quarter. The report must, however, be received with reserve. The squadron is provisioned for Port Said in order, probably, to be in readiness to proceed to east Africa, or to await a development of affairs. It may at least be assumed that the squadron will only go to Samoa in the event of the American government proving exacting or unreasonable.

Bismarck's desire to avoid colonial troubles is due in a large measure to the uncertainty of European politics, especially those of France.

The North German Gazette and other leading German papers predict the overthrow of the Tirard cabinet within a few weeks. Bismarck's opinion, that a crisis will result in the accession to power of General Boulanger, is well known, as there are few persons who do not regard his triumph as a near probability.

The emperor is far from being free from painful earaches. The recent changes in the weather give him much trouble. He is obliged sometimes to have recourse to morphia in order to obtain a few hours' sleep. He will honor by his presence Count von Schellendorff's farewell dinner as minister of war, on the 27th inst.

The police find the utmost difficulty in preventing entry into the country of socialist literature printed abroad. During the past week numerous domiciliary visits have been made to chiefs of the socialist party, and the searchers discovered a quantity of pamphlets, etc., ready for distribution, intended to influence voters in favor of the socialist propaganda.

The king of Wurtemburg is suffering from a severe catarrh attack.

The Peters Emin relief expedition will consist of 100 small soldiers and 500 carriers, are now being engaged at Zanzibar and along the coast. The force will be well organized and led by eight Germans. Several young German officers in search of African adventure have obtained the emperor's permission to accompany the expedition. The armory of the expedition includes Winchester muzzle loading, Remington and Snider rifles for the natives, and specially designed elephant rifles for the sporting members. The success of the venture is much doubted here. Even if the expedition penetrates far beyond the coast, it is not expected that it will ever reach Wadelai.

The efforts of the Berlin banks to obtain the new Italian loan, though very persistent, failed of effect, and French intriguers are accused of additionally pushing up Russian securities and trying to frustrate every operation which Italy attempts with German and English firms.

An anti-slavery society is being formed in Alsace-Loraine under the presidency of Deputy Guerder. The first meeting, it is expected, will be held in April.

The Prince of Waldeck-Pyrmont has returned to Cassel with his daughter Elizabeth, after a winter sojourn at Hamburg. His health is much improved.

Herr Von Bulow will sail for a tour of the United States about the middle of March. He will give sixteen piano recitals and conduct some orchestral concerts.

Miss Van Zandt will appear at the Berlin opera house in March in Delibe's "Lakme" in Italian.

The Neve Frese Presse of Vienna denies that Prince Alexander of Battenburg is about to contract a morganatic marriage.

A committee of the lower house of the Austrian parliament has heard the evidence of twenty-five labor experts of all nationalities on the proposition to establish chambers of labor. The majority agreed that the proposed chamber would adequately represent the business and political interests of workmen, provided that the right of electing representatives in parliament was granted. Nearly all demanded universal franchise.

The Tariff Reformers.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—The committee of nine appointed by the recent tariff reform convention, selected New York as the headquarters of the national organization, elected David A. Wells president, and appointed Everett P. Wheeler, R. R. Bowker and George Haven Putnam members of the executive committee. It was resolved to establish also a permanent bureau at Chicago.